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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hitoshi TSUNASHIMA, ) Re: Preliminary Amendment  
et al. )  
) )  
U.S. Appln. No.: not yet assigned ) Group: not yet assigned  
) )  
U.S. Filing Date: concurrently herewith ) Examiner: not yet assigned  
) )  
International Application No: )  
PCT/JP2004/010618 )  
International Filing Date: )  
26 July 2004 ) Our Ref.: B-5875PCT 623209-5  
) )  
For: "IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, AND )  
COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING )  
MEDIUM IN WHICH IMAGE )  
PROCESSING PROGRAM IS RECORDED") Date: January 24, 2006

MAIL STOP PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified U.S. patent application, please enter the following amendments and remarks into the prosecution history of the above-identified U.S. patent application without prejudice or disclaimer.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.